

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-19 are pending in the instant application. The specification stands objected to over minor typographical errors. The Examiner objects to the Oath/Declaration for lacking the signatures of all of the individuals of the inventive entity. Claims 1, 6, 9, 16, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 4,053,604 to Jaramillo. Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jaramillo in view of United States Patent No. 5,626,130 to Vincent. Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jaramillo in view of United States Patent No. 5,297,502 to Jaeger. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

First, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indicated allowability of claims 7-8, 10-15, and 18.

The Examiner objected to the specification for several minor typographical errors. The second and third of these objections stand obviated by the amendments to the specification.

Applicants respectfully submit, however, that the first such objection, to the spelling of the word “foetus”, is improper. Applicants submit herewith a copy of page 437 from the Larousse Dictionary of Science and Technology (Copyright 1995) which clearly indicates that “foetus” is an acceptable spelling of the word. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this first objection is respectfully requested.

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The Examiner objects to the Oath/Declaration for not being signed by each of the individuals of the inventive entity. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this objection. A copy of the Oath/Declarations submitted for this case are attached. The first Oath/Declaration includes the signatures of three inventors (inventors Zappacosta, Bateman, and Orlowski) and was filed with the Office on June 27, 2003, while separate Oath/Declarations include the signatures of inventors Harling, Byar, and Tobin and were filed with the Office on September 6, 2002. As each of these Oath/Declarations was submitted to the Office, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

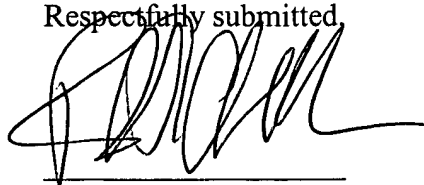
The Examiner has indicated the allowability of claims 7-8, 10-15, and 18. Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 16 so as to incorporate the limitations of claims 6 and 7 and claim 18, respectively. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the independent claims includes allowable subject matter. Additionally, claims 6, 7, 18, and 19 have been cancelled. Furthermore, claims 12 and 17 have been amended to remove the now-redundant recitation of the small animal suite. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102-103 are respectfully requested.

In view of the amendments and remarks hereinabove, Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application, including claims 1-5, and 8-17, is now in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is respectfully requested.

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Any questions with respect to the foregoing may be directed to Applicants'
undersigned counsel at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Chisholm', written over a horizontal line.

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